

Type of School Training for Radio Intercept Operators

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Probably Signal
Cops school attached
RU Unit.

Subordination Part of the Radio Training Company of the 313th
Radio Intercept Batt'l directed by the Radio Intell Section of
the RU CGF Austria.

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Date of existence By April 1949

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Length of Course In 1949 and 1950, course lasted 10 months

Number of students The Radio Training Company was divided into three platoons. Each platoon
the divided into two sections. The third
platoon was not formed until Nov 1949 with the arrival of a new group of recruits.

Rank rec'd When the course was finished, state exams were given. Those who passed came
out with the grade of Radio Men 3rd Class and with the rank of Jr. Sgt.

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Courses

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political training, drill, arms, etc. the course
included elements of electricity, elements of radio theory, tactical organizations of the
American, British and French Armies with especial emphasis on their OB and communications.
The platoon Comdr taught the fundamentals of radio and electricity. They also studied radio
apparatus used by "enemy" armies, range of their sets. etc/

General CoursesDrillMarksmanship

Political Training. Two hours a day for the entire course

Soviet Army regulations and instructions

Physical training

Radio and Allied Subjects

Practical work in receiving Morse in 5 letter groups from a practice oscillator

Incidental training in Q signals etc.

During the entire course they were given no practical work in radio maintenance or repair; in
fact, they were prohibited from even changing tubes in their receivers after they were
trained.

Stress was placed on a new course called SES. It referred to training in the radio reception
of the Morse code. Code did not know why it was so designated. At first letters of the Morse
code were studied (Latin alphabet). In instructor would send the code with a key and
buzzer and the 25 men seated at the table with headphones on would listen to the signals
and jot them down. The recruits speed at sending and receiving increased daily.

In July 1949 two new courses were introduced: a technical course and a course called TSP,
Taktikospetsivnaya podgotovka, Special Tactical Training.

The study of American, British and French Armies were studied under TSP as well as the
structures of infantry divisions, tank divisions and smaller units of foreign armies,
along with their methods of communications.

The instructors on TSP explained how to recognize and discover a ruse used by "enemy"
radio stations. The recruits were also taught that it was important to pay attention to the
habits and manners of the "enemy" radio operators.

The "enemy's" procedure and order of entering into communication were discussed. The
recruits were also taught the call letters assigned by the International Convention in Cairo
to the countries present.

In Oct 1949 the command of the 313th ORD made a check on the progress of the first and
second platoons of the Radio Training Company's recruits to determine whether the men were
doing poorly in receiving code. On the basis of this check the recruits were assigned according
to their achievement in the platoons. The first platoon was filled with those who had successfully
learned how to take the Morse code. After the splitting up of the recruits into two platoons
the number of hours spent on receiving-- receiving Morse was increased to 4-5 hours a day.

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In Nov 1949 the first platoon (the best qualified recruits) began practicing in the PTs, Signal Reception or Intercept Center. The platoon was divided into groups, each of which was assigned to a specific watch with qualified radio operators. The recruits used a second pair of headphones which went with each receiver. The recruits were instructed individually by the radio operators.

The recruits wrote the messages down in a special book the pages of which were numbered and sealed with sealing wax. After the daily watch the recruit's notebook was handed in by the Chief of the Watch to the OPO (Operations Section of the 313th ORD) where they were corrected by the officers.

On 7 Jan 1950 25 men took an official examination; only 7 satisfied the requirements of the examining commission and passed. These 7 got the rating of radio operator, 3rd class and were put to work in the PTs.

From March 1950 on the program of general mil training was considerably shortened and the recruits work in the PT increased. About 10 hours a day were devoted to taking code.

In March 18-19 men of the first platoon who had failed the first exam were given a repeat. Those who did not pass repeated the course.

the exams had a semi-official character since the examining commission was composed entirely of officers of the 313th ORD who in their effort to show their own good work dragged knowledge from the recruits which they did not possess. Therefore the score which the students got in an exam did not indicate the actual level of knowledge among the,

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The rules of the test were very strict. The students were allowed only 1 letter in 100 letters. He did not pass if he made two errors.

TRAINING SCHEDULE IN THE RADIO TRAINING COMPANY

0630	Reveille, exercise, toilet
0700	Company inspection
0830	1st hour of studies. Lasted to 0820. Receiving and sending code
0830	Breakfast
0900	Courses until 1350
1350	Political information.
1430	Lunch
1500	Dead Hour, "mertvy chas" soldiers slept during this period.
1600	Lectures until 1750
1755	Time for self study in all courses
1935	Weapon cleaning
2005	Dinner
2030	Reading aloud of Soviet newspapers
2130	Private hour "lichny chas". During this period the soldiers could write home or mend clothes
2235	Evening inspection. Roll call